

1809
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

balconies were wreathed in green, and behind this green bank the United States Hotel orchestra played during the dinner. The tables were arranged in a very attractive manner by the caterer, W. Brother A. E. Curtis, accommodations for four hundred being provided. At the post-prandial, State Senator Edgar T. Brackett acted as Toastmaster. Senator Brackett referred to the creditable history of Rising Sun Lodge, and urged the members to utilize this record as their guiding star in the years to come, not content merely to look with pride upon the century that is past, but to make every effort in the ensuing years to follow more closely the principles of the order. He called attention to the condition of the country at the time the Lodge was instituted. There were no railroads in the land, and Robert Fulton had just demonstrated the ability of steam upon the water. He referred to other events of that era, comparing them with present conditions. In closing, Senator Brackett referred most fittingly to a number of men of great prominence who had been members of Rising Sun Lodge.

The first speaker was Brother William S. Ostrander of Schuylerville, the Surrogate of Saratoga County, who is noted as an after-dinner speaker.

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RISING SUN LODGE, No. 103, F. & A. M.

During the course of his remarks Brother Ostrander exhibited the jewel of William Laing, who was one of the founders and charter members of Rising Sun Lodge. The jewel has been in the hands of Brother Laing's descendants since the time he possessed it. In concluding, the speaker said he hoped all would be as loyal to the principles of the order in the next hundred years as in the past, closing with the following poem:

PAST.

Who knows who rode the billy-goat,
A hundred years ago,
Who knows who got a blackball vote,
A hundred years ago;
Who knows who swung the setting maul,
Who heard the husky ruffian's call
Who found what goes before a fall,
A hundred years ago?

FUTURE

Who'll stop to worry o'er his woes,
A hundred years to come,
Who'll give a d—n for all his foes,
A hundred years to come?
The Master 'll hold his worthy chair,
Humanity will be our care,
And there'll be Masons everywhere
A hundred years to come.